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PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-5949

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Ryuichi SATO)	Confirmation No.: 5489
)	
Application No.: 10/654,941)	Group Art Unit: 3653
)	
Filed: September 5, 2003)	Examiner: T. Morrison
)	
For: SHEET PROCESSING APPARATUS)	Mail Stop Amendment
AND SHEET BUNDLE ALIGNMENT)	
METHOD)	

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in an Office Action issued by the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, Applicant does not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper.

The listed documents were cited in an Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office dated January 22, 2008 in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the Japanese Office

Action, the English-language translation, and listed references cited therein, are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The Japanese Office Action cited JP-A-11-130338 which was previously filed on February 8, 2008 and is already of record in the above-identified application.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents listed:

1. JP 59-153764: The relevance of this document can be ascertained from the attached English-language abstract, the English-language translation of the Japanese Office Action, and the figures therein.
2. JP 10-334210: The relevance of this document can be ascertained from the attached English-language abstract, the counterpart USPN 5,961,115, the English-language translation of the Japanese Office Action, and the figures therein.
3. JP 08-301504: The relevance of this document can be ascertained from the attached English-language abstract, the counterpart USPN 5,992,839, the English-language translation of the Japanese Office Action, and the figures therein.
4. JP 2000-289922: The relevance of this document can be ascertained from the attached English-language abstract, the English-language translation of the Japanese Office Action, and the figures therein.

5. JP 2000-191213: The relevance of this document can be ascertained from the attached English-language abstract, the English-language translation of the Japanese Office Action, and the figures therein.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required,

including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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Dated: March 26, 2008

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